

United States Department of Interior 106 North Parkmont

Bureau of Land Management

Butte Field Office Butte, Montana 59701

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BLM SEEKS TRAVEL PLAN PARTICIPANTS**

BUTTE (April 27, 2005) – If you would like to be involved in travel management planning with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), now is your chance. The BLM in Butte is in the process of developing travel plans for areas near Helena based on user interests and resource protection concerns. The Butte Field Office extends an invitation to interested individuals to serve on one of three citizen advisory groups for the following areas:

- The Helena Travel Planning Area (focus area -Scratchgravel Hills)
- The East Helena Travel Planning Area (focus area- North Hills)
- The Lewis and Clark County NW Travel Planning Area (focus area- Marysville)

Interested individuals need to submit an application no later than May 5, with selections made soon after. Participants will assist the BLM in determining a preferred travel plan alternative and making recommendations regarding the status and use of each road and trail.

BLM anticipates that each working group will meet 3 to 4 times between the dates of May 10 – June 9 in the evenings at a location in or near Helena.

Participants selected for working groups must reside in Montana, be familiar with the area of interest, and willing to work collaboratively with people of differing viewpoints. In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, participants will be selected from one of the following categories:

<u>Category 1.</u> Persons who have an interest in the commercial use of the resource such as a grazing permit holder, one who holds a transportation or right-of-way, represents developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities; represent the commercial timber industry; or represents energy and mineral development.

<u>Category 2:</u> persons who represent nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreational activities; archaeological and historical interests.

<u>Category 3:</u> persons who hold State, county, or local elected office; are employed by a State agency responsible for the management of natural resources, land, and water; are employed as academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences; or represent the public-at-large.

For additional information and an application form, please contact: Alice Stanley at Tetra Tech, 442-5588, or email: alice.stanley@ttemi.com.